Congress has demanded for the inclusion of agricultural and industrial labour in the scheme loan waiving upto Rs. 10,000/-; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Government of India have formulated the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990 for providing debt relief to farmers, landless cultivators, artisans and weavers upto Rs. 10,000/-by public sector banks and regional rural banks. For the operation of the Scheme, Government of India have taken into account suggestions and demands put forth by the State Government and other forums/ organisations in so far as they are practicable in the implementation of the Scheme.

Setting up of National Rural Banking Corporation

1858. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up a National Rural Banking Corporation for meeting the entire fund requirement for rural development programme;

(b) if so, what are the details of such programme;

(c) whether Government have received any memorandum from All India Regional Rural Banking Employees Association to this effect; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The suggestions received from various forums/organisations for improving the institutional arrangements for surveying rural credit are considered by the Government, Reserve Bank of India and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development and appropriate decisions taken where warranted.

Irrigation projects from Andhra Pradesh pending clearance

1859. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR:
DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:
SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of medium irrigation projects from Andhra Pradesh are pending with the Central Government for clearance; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b) For the three medium irrigation projects, namely, Modikuntavagu, Palemvagu and Yerravagu, estimated to cost about Rs. 31.9, Rs. 21.1 and Rs. 7.7 crores and envisaging irrigation benefits to about 6600, 4900 and 2450 hectares respectively, received at the Centre from January, 1989 to March, 1989, the State Government is required, among others, to comply with the observations of Central appraising agencies and to obtain appropriate forest clearance.

Internal and external debt of the country

1860. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE